FIRST REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES.

(Presentation)

Sri R. NAGAN GOWDA (Hospet).—I present the First Report of the Committee on Government Assurances.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER.—The Report is presented.

Now the House will adjourn for half-an-hour.

The House rose at Thirty-five Minutes past Ten of the Clock to re-assemble at Eleven of the Clock.

The House re-assembled at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

Member's Representation

Sri RAJA PID NAIK.—Sir, I would like to have some information from the Chair. Today being the last day and we are dispersing, myself and the House are all anxious to know about the health of the Hon. Speaker.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER.—He is progressing; he is all-right.

Sri AZIZ SAIT.—Sir, our prayer for his early recovery may kindly be conveyed to the Speaker.

Now, I want to clarify some of the remarks made by me during the debate about the wealth of the Ministers. Hon. Chief Minister has replied that I have taken a number of times permission to meet him and furnish a statement but I have evaded. In that context, I have also received a letter from the Chief Minister two days back. I am reading my reply to that. I will pass on the information regarding the Minister's accumulated wealth to you and it may be sent to the Chief Minister through you and a copy of it may be kept in the Legislature Library. My letter is as follows:—

"Dear Mr. Nijalingappa,

I have received your letter No. CMI 914/68 dated 13th April 1968. Reading your letter which is carefully worded leaves the impression that you consider that I am evading a meeting with you and that you almost feel that the statements made by me are baseless.

I may categorically tell you that I have no reason to evade meeting you, though I have serious nisgivings whether anything much will come out of my disclosing the details to you. However, I had tried to meet you by even coming to your residence on a couple of times. You were not available as you were said to be away in connection with the duties attached to your other national political office.

I spell out here below certain details and hope that you will pursue the matter and let me know theout come of your action.

In conclusion I may say that more details may be forthcoming if a judicial enquiry is set up. Indeed, that is the only proper way to deal with cases of this kind. Thank you."

Now, allegations against the Minister I have not disclosed and they are kept confident for the Chief Minister to make enquiry about it. All these allegations are in this letter. I am passing on this to the Chair. The Chair may kindly pass it on to the Chief Minister and a copy of the same may be kept in the Legislative Library Sir.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER.—I wilf take up Sri K. H. Patil's motion. I will hear the Chief Minister and then come to conclusion as to whether it is in order.

STATEMENT OF THE CHIEF MINISTER ON THE NOTICE OF BREACH OF PRIVILEGE BY Sri K. H. PATIL

Sri S. NIJALINGAPPA (Chief Minister) .- Sir, this is a very strange request from a member of this House Sri K. H. Patil that there has been abuse of privilege on my part and it refers to a statement I am alleged to have made in Bombay. When a man of some importance goes to a place, all the Press people meet him at Press Conference and put a number of questions and he answers. It very often happens that they take the answers and report in their own way. Let me make it very clear. Let there be no doubt about it. I am sorry I have not got that copy with me here. Anyway, I have made up my mind that within two or three weeks I am going to make arrangement for my successor and I am leaving. I do not know where there is any abuse of privilege at all. A question was asked whether it was not a fact that considerable amount of pressure was brought on me and that I am receiving a number of letters that I must continue here. I have said that considerable amount of pressure was brought on me and a member accompanied me from here to Bombay because he could not get audience here. Do you not think that it is a matter for consideration? I have considered all these things. I considered what an amount of pressure is brought on me. I have received a number of letters and am still receiving.

But I have made up my mind. In view of the responsibility I have to bear being onerous, it is not possible for me to continue as Chief Minister possibly for more than two or three weeks after this Session. I do not think thre is any privilege involved and there is no question of my having done anything which affects the privilege of this House.

Sri S. SIVAPPA (Sravanabelagola).—Sir, the statement of the Chief Minister had made the position amply clear and he has said in clear-cut terms that he is relinquishing his office as Chief Minister within two or three weeks. So, all this question of privilege ends. We do not like to press the Motion any further.